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Is The C.I.A. Planning Another Bay of Pigs?

PUMORS COMING OUT of Guatemala have a frightening sound. According to these rumors—and they are backed by too much circumstantial evidence to be lightly dismissed—forces of deposed Cuban Dictator Batista are training in the Guatemalan jungle, presumably in preparation for an invasion of the island.

The rumors could be ignored if they did not bear such disturbing resemblance to the rumors that came from Guatemala in the days preceding the disastrous invasion attempt by anti-Castro Cuban refugees at the Bay of Pigs. Repeatedly newsmen warned of such forces, reputedly being trained with the consent, if not the material aid, of the United States, and just as consistently the reports were denied or brushed off by State Department spokesmen as preposterous.

As it turned out, the reports were not preposterous, though the invasion project was. With or without State Department and White House knowledge and approval, the Central Intelligence Agency had been sponsoring (to employ a euphemism) the invasion preparations, in (Auatemala and elsewhere. It had managed to keep from everyone (except, unfortunately, Castro) the details of its keystone-copplan for the invasion which so complicated the position of the United States in regard to Cuba and its muddled dictator.

The people of this country need and deserve concrete, assurances that the C.I.A. is not trying to the same again. Above all else, we should not be training to invade Cuba with the forces of the black of dictator Batista, whose reign of pillage and murder set the stage for the success of Catro, and whose attempted return could only trengthen the bearded Fidel and harden the Cuban people against the United States.